WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. In a computing environment, a method comprising:

collecting settings data from a disparate set of stores; and

5   processing the settings into at least one markup language document.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the disparate set of stores comprise containers for the settings data of a group
10   policy object.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein a markup language document comprises a HTML-formatted document, and further
15   comprising, rendering a visible representation of the HTML-formatted document.

4. The method of claim 3 wherein processing the
20   settings into at least one markup language document comprises generating an HTML-formatted document.

5. The method of claim 4 further comprising, rendering a visible representation of the HTML-formatted document.

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6.   The method of claim 4 wherein generating the HTML-formatted document comprises mapping a type of property dialog to HTML content.

5   7.   The method of claim 4 wherein the HTML document includes headings and settings data.

8.   The method of claim 7 wherein a set of settings data corresponds to a heading, and ₁wherein the set of settings data
10   is shown based on interaction with the corresponding heading.

9.   The method of claim 7 wherein the HTML document includes headings and settings data, and wherein one of the settings maps to a set of properties accessible via a property
15   dialog.

10.   The method of claim 1 wherein processing the settings into at least one markup language document comprises serializing the settings into an XML-formatted document.
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11.   The method of claim 10 wherein serializing the settings comprises providing an XML schema and settings data to an XML serializer component.

12. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the method of claim 1.

13. In a computing environment, a method comprising:

    providing a schema that describes group policy object settings; and

    applying the schema to output a formatted version of the group policy object settings.

14. The method of claim 13 wherein the schema comprises an XML schema.

15. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the method of claim 13.

16. In a computing environment, a method comprising:

    providing a schema that describes resultant set of policy settings; and

    applying the schema to output a formatted version of the resultant set of policy settings.

17. The method of claim 16 wherein the schema comprises an XML schema.

18. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the method of claim 16.